



IFWAF/ 3651

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

|                                       |   |                              |
|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| U.S. Serial No.: 10/047,208           | ) |                              |
|                                       | ) | Group Art Unit: 3651         |
| Filed: January 14, 2002               | ) |                              |
|                                       | ) | Examiner: Valenza, Joseph E. |
| Applicant: Akira Shiohara             | ) |                              |
|                                       | ) | Docket No.: 2718.3070.001    |
| Title: Article Joining Control Method | ) |                              |

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**Response After Final Action**

**Introductory Comments**

In response to the Office Action of February 18, 2004, amendment is hereby  
made as follows: